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**August 26, 2003**  
**Marine Fisheries Advisory**

## **COMMERCIAL FLUKE FISHERY TO CLOSE ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2003.**

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Based on dealer reports, *Marine Fisheries* has projected the total 2003 state commercial summer flounder (fluke) quota will be harvested by September 1, 2003. **The commercial fluke fishery will close in state waters as of 0001 hours on Tuesday September 2, 2003.** The commercial fishery will re-open again on January 1, 2004 at a daily possession limit of 1,000-lbs. Dealers are reminded that they are prohibited from purchasing fluke directly from fishermen while the fishery is closed in state waters.

Fishing vessels issued a Federal moratorium permit for summer flounder may no longer land fluke in Massachusetts for the remainder of the 2003 calendar year. Vessel owners issued Federal permits are also reminded that they must continue to complete and submit vessel logbooks. Additionally, dealers issued Federal dealer permits for summer flounder are advised that they may not purchase fluke from federally permitted vessels that land in Massachusetts for the remainder of the calendar year. Federally permitted dealers must also continue to report all fish purchases from any vessel.

For further information please contact *Marine Fisheries* at 617.626.1520  
or visit our website at: [www.mass.gov/marinfisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinfisheries).